

REMARKS

Claims 19-24 are pending in the application. Claims 19-23 have been amended. Claims 38-47 have been cancelled.

Restriction and Election

The telephone election of claims 19-24 for prosecution of the present application is affirmed.

Claims 38-47 have been withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner as drawn to a non-elected invention. These claims are hereby cancelled without prejudice to subsequent reintroduction in this or a continuation or divisional application.

Allowable Subject Matter

The rejection of claim 19-21 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 5,487,959 to Koksbang (“Koksbang”), and of claims 19 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 4,001,043 to Momyer (“Momyer”) or US Patent No. 4,917,974 to De Jonghe et al. (“De Jonghe”) are noted. The indication of the allowability of claims 22-23 if rewritten in independent form is gratefully acknowledged. In order to expedite the issuance of a patent for the subject matter presently indicated allowable, claim 19 has been amended to recite the classes of oxidants represented by allowable claims 22 and 23, and the dependent claims have been amended to delete rejected subject matter and adjust dependencies. Claim 23 has been further amended to add a parentheses around I₂Br₂ in order to correct a clerical error. The remaining claims have been canceled without prejudice to further prosecution in a subsequently filed continuation or divisional application.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are patentable over the cited art and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Information Disclosure Statement

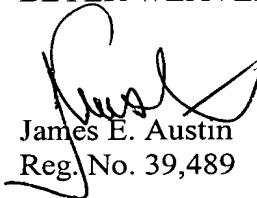
The Examiner noted that the application failed to comply with 37 CFR § 1.98(a) for failure to submit copies of all cited references with the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed August 20, 2003. While it was not explicitly stated in the IDS, the present application is a divisional of Application No. 09/789,379, now US Patent No. 6,632,573, and the references listed in the PTO Form 1449 were either cited by the PTO, or submitted to the PTO in the parent application. Accordingly, under 37 CFR § 1.98(d) Applicants submit that copies of the references need not be provided in the present application. Thus, the Examiner’s consideration of the information submitted in the IDS is respectfully requested, and the Examiner is requested

to provide an initialed copy of the PTO 1449 with the next action in this application. A clean copy of the original 1449 attached to the IDS accompanies this response for the Examiner's convenience.

Conclusion

Applicants believe that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below. If any further fees are due in connection with the filing of this amendment, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 500388 (Order No. PLUSP023D1).

Respectfully submitted,
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